

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An interface apparatus to which information is input from an external apparatus according to a predetermined protocol which does not continuously transmit the same information, comprising:

a first circuit for waiting until a predetermined time has elapsed from a time when the information input from the external apparatus has changed, and latching the information input from the external apparatus in response to the elapse of the predetermined time; and

a second circuit for determining whether the information currently latched by the first circuit is the same as information latched by the first circuit a previous time, thereby determining whether or not the currently latched information matches the predetermined protocol.

wherein in the second circuit, ~~does not output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first circuit is the same as the information latched by the first circuit the previous time, ~~thereby skipping the information not matching with the predetermined protocol;~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first circuit does not match the predetermined protocol and therefore skips processing of the currently latched information, and wherein in the second circuit, ~~does output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first circuit is not the same as the information latched by the first

circuit the previous time, ~~thereby processing the information matching with the predetermined protocol~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first circuit matches the predetermined protocol and therefore outputs the currently latched information to be processed.

2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first circuit comprises:

a change detector for outputting a reset in the case where there is a change in the information input from the external apparatus;

a timer for inputting the reset output by the change detector and outputting a trigger after the elapse of a predetermined time from the input of the reset; and

a latch for inputting the trigger output by the timer and latching the information input from the external apparatus in accordance with the input of the trigger.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the external apparatus forms the information such that information is non-continuous information.

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information which is input from the external apparatus is input to the first circuit and the information latched by said first circuit is input to the second circuit.

5. (Currently Amended) A printer to which information is input from an external apparatus according to a predetermined protocol which does not continuously transmit the same information, comprising:

a first circuit for waiting until a predetermined time has elapsed from a time when the information input from the external apparatus has changed, and latching the information input from the external apparatus in response to the elapse of the predetermined time;

a second circuit for determining whether the information currently latched by the first circuit is the same as information latched by the first circuit a previous time, thereby determining whether or not the currently latched information matches the predetermined protocol, wherein in the second circuit, ~~does not output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first circuit is the same as the information latched by the first circuit the previous time, ~~thereby skipping the information not matching with the predetermined protocol;~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first circuit does not match the predetermined protocol and therefore skips processing of the currently latched information, and wherein in the second circuit, ~~does output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first circuit is not the same as the information latched by the first circuit the previous time, ~~thereby processing the information matching with the predetermined protocol~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first circuit matches the predetermined protocol and therefore outputs the currently latched information to be processed; and

a printer engine for printing the information output by the second circuit.

6. (Currently Amended) An information processing method by an apparatus to which information is input from an external apparatus according to a predetermined protocol which does not continuously transmit the same information, comprising:

a first step of a first circuit waiting until a predetermined time has elapsed from a time when the information input from the external apparatus has changed, and latching the information input from the external apparatus in response to the elapse of the predetermined time; and

a second step of a second circuit determining whether the information currently latched by the first step is the same as information latched by the first step a previous time, thereby determining whether or not the currently latched information matches the predetermined protocol.

wherein in the second step, ~~does not output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first step is the same as the information latched by the first step the previous time, ~~thereby skipping the information not matching with the predetermined protocol;~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first step does not match the predetermined protocol and therefore skips processing of the currently latched information, and wherein in the second step, ~~does output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first step is not the same as the information latched by the first step the previous time, ~~thereby processing the information matching with the predetermined protocol~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first

step matches the predetermined protocol and therefore outputs the currently latched information to be processed.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein said first step comprises:

a change detecting step of outputting a reset in the case where there is a change in the information input from the external apparatus;

a timer step of inputting the reset output by the change detecting step and outputting a trigger after the elapse of a predetermined time from the input of the reset; and

a latch step of inputting the trigger output by the timer step and latching the information input from the external apparatus in accordance with the input of the trigger.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the external apparatus forms the information such that same information does not continue.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the first step is executed by a glitch noise filter and the second step is executed by a logical filter.

10. (Currently Amended) A printing method for a printing apparatus to which information is input from an external apparatus according to a predetermined protocol which does not continuously transmit the same information, comprising:

a first step of a first circuit waiting until a predetermined time has elapsed from a time when the information input from the external apparatus has changed, and

latching the information input from the external apparatus in response to the elapse of the predetermined time;

a second step of a second circuit determining whether the information currently latched in the first step is the same as information latched by the first step a previous time, wherein in the second step, ~~does not output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first step is the same as the information latched by the first step the previous time, ~~thereby skipping the information not matching with the predetermined protocol;~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first step does not match the predetermined protocol and therefore skips processing of the currently latched information, and wherein in the second step, ~~does output the latched information~~ if it is determined that the information currently latched by the first step is not the same as the information latched by the first step the previous time, ~~thereby processing the information matching with the predetermined protocol~~ the second circuit determines that the information currently latched by the first step matches the predetermined protocol and therefore outputs the currently latched information to be processed; and

a step of printing the information output in the second step.

11. to 16. (Canceled)